

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 14232 230407 Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /113 W

----- 006819

O R 221834 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 368

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14232

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EG, LY

SUBJ: LIBYAN- EGYPTIAN UNION

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

1. EGYPTIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR AND DIRECTOR OF PARIS ARAB LEAGUE OFFICE AMER, WHO HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH VISITING EGYPTIAN PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR HAFEZ ISMAIL, TOLD EMBOFF MAY 22 THAT POMPIDOU HAD RAISED ISSUE OF LIBYAN- EGYPTIAN MERGER WITH ISMAIL DURING RECENT TALKS IN PARIS. ISMAIL REPORTEDLY GAVE POMPIDOU " UNEQUIVOCAL" STATEMENT THAT UNION WOULD TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED ON SEPTEMBER 1.

2. ACCORDING TO AMER, IT WAS CERTAIN THAT THERE WOULD BE SINGLE FOREIGN OFFICE FOR TWO COUNTRIES AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO DUPLICATION OF EMBASSIES. ROLE OF QADHAFI REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT. QADHAFI WISHED TO BE COMMANDER- IN- CHIEF OF COMBINED ARMED FORCES ABOUT WHICH EGYPTIANS HAD RESERVATIONS. GOE, HE SAID, THINKING IN TERMS OF OFFERING QADHAFI VICE PRESIDENCY OF UNION.

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3. COMMENT: AMER IS WIDELY TRAVELLED ARAB DIPLOMAT WHO HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM VISIT TO TRIPOLI AND CAIRO. BY VIRTUE OF HIS POSITION IN PARIS, HE WOULD HAVE HAD ACCESS TO ISMAIL. EMBASSY HAS NO INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION THAT ISMAIL WAS CATEGORIC ABOUT UNION PROSPECTS, BUT QUAI OFFICERS SEEM TO BE VEERING TOWARD POSITION THAT SOME KIND OF UNION PROBABLE IN SEPTEMBER. IRWIN

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS14232
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730552/aaaajpkz.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <09-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980226
Subject: LIBYAN- EGYPTIAN UNION DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO
TAGS: PINS, EG, LY
To: ALGIERS
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEL AVIV
TRIPOLI
TUNIS
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005